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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/945,288	08/30/2001	Kun-Shan Lu	JCLA7661	2076

7590 11/05/2004
J.C. Patents, Inc.
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EXAMINER

YE, LIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/945,288

Applicant(s)

LU, KUN-SHAN

Examiner

Lin Ye

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2001.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Applicant's Oath/Declaration lists a foreign application TAIWAN 90116328 filed in Taiwan on **07/04/2001**, but does not claim Foreign Priority. However, the USPTO has recorded the Taiwan 90116328 filed in Taiwan on **07/04/2000** which is more than one year the U.S application filing date 8/30/2001. Applicant, please indicate which date is corrected filling date for the Taiwan application 90116328 in Taiwan.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Urisaka et al. U.S. Publication 2001/0024233.

Referring to claim 1, the Urisaka reference discloses in Figures 1-2, an audio/video IP camera (an image communication terminal device 101, see page 2, [0044] and page 12, [0241]), comprising: a digital video unit (video camera 111 and video capture unit 113, see page 2, [0049]) for outputting digital video data captured by the camera; a digital audio unit

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(microphone 121 and audio input control circuit 122, see page 2, [0051]) for outputting digital audio data captured by the camera; a system control user interface (image display camera display control panel 64 on the monitor 218 as shown in Figure 3) for providing user with a set of instructions that controls the tilting, panning and focusing of the camera (see page 3, [0072] and page 2, [0045]); and a digital audio/video processor (CPU 116 and network I/F 114) connected to the digital video unit (111 and 113), the digital audio unit (121 and 122) and the system control user interface (64), wherein the digital audio/video processor further includes: a real-time transport protocol (e.g., TCP/IP protocol is a real-time protocol and provides connection between the LAN and the rest of the world for transmitting real-time data such as audio and video, see page 12, [0241]) connected to a compression module (the circuit 122 includes compression module, see page 2, [0051]) and the digital audio unit for processing the digital video data and the digital audio data and producing synchronous digital audio/video data (e.g., the audio signal can be transmitted simultaneously with the video signal, see page 2 [0052]).

Referring to claim 2, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the digital audio/video processor (CPU 116 and network I/F 114) further includes a local area network interface (network I/F 114, see page 2, [0049] and [0051]) connected to the real-time transport protocol (TCP/IP) and signaling module such that synchronous digital audio/video data can be transmitted to remote terminals through the network interface (See page 2 [0052]).

Referring to claim 3, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the local area network interface and the digital audio/video camera are connected so that synchronous audio/video data can be registered by the digital audio/video camera through the network (e.g., the

camera management server 202 can stores the registered information such as the camera names or host names, the setting positions, current states and the like of the individual digital audio/video cameras, see page 3, [0063]-[0064]).

Referring to claim 4, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the local area network interface (network I/F 114 via network 105 shown in Figure 1, network 204 shown in Figure 2, see page 3, [0058]) and a computer terminal (monitor 218 and communication terminal devices 201) are connected together so that the synchronous digital audio/video data can be broadcast through a network browser as shown in Figure 2 (see page 3, [0066]-[0067]).

Referring to claim 6, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the digital video unit further includes a digital signal processor (e.g., the video capture unit 113 A/D-converts an image signal input by the camera 111 to digital format, compresses and codes the digital image signal. This can be considered as a digital signal processor, see page 2, [0049]).

Referring to claim 7, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the audio/video IP (image communication device 201) camera further includes an audio/video network intercom as shown in Figures 2-3 (e.g., In computer network 204, the camera and audio management server which supports audio/video intercommunications between two or more image communication device 201 located in the same office, building or localized area, see page 3, [0074]).

Referring to claim 8, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the audio/video network intercom (204) is connected to an indoor display monitor (monitor 125 in Figure 1, 218 in Figure 2) through a network connection port (Network I/F 114) as shown in Figures 1-3.

Referring to claim 9, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the digital audio/video processor further includes a compression module (video capture unit 113 has a compression module) connected to the digital video unit (camera 111) so that digital video data provided by the digital video unit is compressed (See page 2, [0049]).

Referring to claim 10, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the digital audio/video processor further includes a signaling module (CPU 116) connected to the system control user interface (image display camera display control panel 64 on the monitor 125 as shown in Figure 3) for providing control instructions to the system control user interface and controlling the transmission of digital video data and digital audio data (See page 2, [0045] and [0052]).

Referring to claim 11, the Urisaka reference discloses in Figures 1-2, an audio/video IP camera (an image communication terminal device 101, see page 2, [0044] and page 12, [0241]), comprising: a digital video unit (video camera 111 and video capture unit 113, see page 2, [0049]) for outputting digital video data; a digital audio unit (microphone 121 and audio input control circuit 122, see page 2, [0051]) for outputting digital audio data; a system control user interface (image display camera display control panel 64 on the monitor 218 as shown in Figure 3) for outputting control instructions; and a digital audio/video processor (CPU 116 and network I/F 114), comprising: a real-time transport protocol (e.g., TCP/IP protocol is a real-time protocol and provides connection between the LAN and the rest of the world for transmitting real-time data such as audio and video, see page 12, [0241]) for receiving the digital video data and the digital audio data; and a local area network interface (network I/F 114, see page 2, [0049] and [0051]).

Referring to claim 12, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the local area network interface (114) connects with a digital audio/video camera (101) so that synchronized digital audio/video data from the digital audio/video camera can be stored (in the main storage unit 117 and secondary storage device 118, see page 2, [0046]-[0047]) via a network (105).

Referring to claim 13, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the local area network interface (114) connects with a computer terminal (computer monitor 125 in Figure 1, 218 in Figure 2) so that the synchronized digital audio/video data can be broadcast via a network browser (window 62 is a network browser as shown in Figure 3, see page 4, [0081]-[0082]).

Referring to claim 15, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the digital video unit further includes a digital signal processor and a video compression module (e.g., the video capture unit 113 A/D-converts an image signal input by the camera 111 to digital format, compresses and codes the digital image signal. This can be considered as a digital signal processor and a compression module, see page 2, [0049]).

Referring to claim 16, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the audio/video IP (image communication device 201) camera further includes an audio/video network intercom as shown in Figures 2-3 (e.g., In computer network 204, the camera and audio management server support audio/video intercommunications between two or more image communication device 201 located in the same office, building or localized area, see page 3, [0074]).

Referring to claim 18, the Urisaka reference discloses in Figures 1-2 and 3, an audio/video IP camera method, comprising the steps of: feeding video data and audio into a transport protocol unit so that the video data and the audio data are synchronously processed to produce real-time audio/video data (see page 2, [0052], and page 12, [0241]); and

transmitting the real-time audio/video data to a local area network interface (114) so that the real-time audio/video data can be transmitted to remote locations through a network (105).

Referring to claim 19, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the transport protocol includes a real-time transport protocol (e.g., TCP/IP protocol as a real-time transport network protocol, see page 12, [0241]).

Referring to claim 20, the Urisaka reference discloses wherein the real-time audio/video data may be broadcast via a web browser (e.g., the reference discloses when a device that provides a transfer real-time audio/video data onto a worldwide network such as the Internet, inherently, the windows 60, 62 and 64 are web browser display on the monitor 218 as shown in Figures 2-3, see 12, [0241]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Urisaka et al. U.S. Publication 2001/0024233 in view of Heimbigner et al. U.S. 6,233,554.

Referring to claim 5, the Urisaka reference discloses all subject matter as discussed with respect to same comment as with claim 1, and the Urisaka discloses the digital audio unit includes microphone (121) and audio input control circuit (122) which having A/D converter

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and compresses and codec module, see page 2, [0051]). However, the Urisaka reference does not explicitly show the digital audio unit also includes an audio amplifier and a speech compression module.

The Heimbigner reference teaches in Figures 1-3, a digital audio device includes a microphone (102), and audio amplifier (202), an audio codec (106) and a speech compression module (vocoder 108) for converting the analog audio signal to the digital audio signal (See Col. 3, lines 10-25). The Heimbigner reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages the digital audio unit further includes an audio amplifier so that the device can overcome the “loud talker” or “soft talkers” problem (See Col. 1, lines 60-67) for increasing the signal quality, and the device has more flexible option to performs various digital signal processing techniques such as speech compression, background noise estimation and removal. For that reason, it would have been obvious to see the digital audio unit also includes an audio amplifier and a speech compression module disclosed by Urisaka.

Referring to claim 14, the Urisaka reference discloses all subject matter as discussed with respected to same comment as with claim 11, and the Urisaka discloses the digital audio unit includes microphone (121) and audio input control circuit (122) which having A/D converter and compresses and codec module, see page 2, [0051]). However, the Urisaka reference does not explicitly show the digital audio unit also includes an audio amplifier and an audio compression module.

The Heimbigner reference teaches in Figures 1-3, a digital audio device includes a microphone (102), and audio amplifier (202), an audio codec (106) and a audio compression

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module (vocoder 108) for converting the analog audio signal to the digital audio signal (See Col. 3, lines 10-25). The Heimbigner reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages the digital audio unit further includes an audio amplifier so that the device can overcome the “loud talker” or “soft talkers” problem (See Col. 1, lines 60-67) for increasing the signal quality, and the device has more flexible option to performs various digital signal processing techniques such as speech compression, background noise estimation and removal. For that reason, it would have been obvious to see the digital audio unit also includes an audio amplifier and an audio compression module disclosed by Urisaka.

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Urisaka et al. U.S. Publication 2001/0024233 in view of Vanderwilt et al. U.S. 6,693,661.

Referring to claim 17, the Urisaka reference discloses all subject matter as discussed with respected to same comment as with claims 11 and 16, except that the Urisaka reference does not explicitly states the audio/video network intercom is connected to an indoor display monitor through a hub.

The Vanderwilt reference teaches in Figure 1, an audio/video network intercom (videoconferencing system 100, see Col. 3, lines 15-29) includes network interface (126) and network hub (128) are connected to an indoor display monitor (110) through a video I/O interface (120) (See Col. 3, lines 65-67 and Col. 4, lines 1-9). The Vanderwilt reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages the audio/video IP camera network intercom using the hub to connect the local area network via

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a plurality of other device so that allows users of remote network devices to easily commutate with the network intercom through a well-known, familiar interface (See Col. 2, lines 43-53). For that reason, it would have been obvious to see the audio/video network intercom that connected to an indoor display monitor through a hub by Urisaka.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Anderson et al. U.S. 6,567,122 discloses an image capture unit and display can host a web page for allowing the user to access.
 - b. Wolf et al. U.S. 2002/0044157 discloses a method for accessing at least one image file transferred from a digital camera to a host computer.
 - c. Kurosawa et al. U.S. 2004/0080625 discloses a video-image control apparatus enables a client to obtain the detail of an object in a displayed video image.
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (703) 305-3250. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew B Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lin Ye
Examiner
Art Unit 2615

Lin Ye
November 3, 2004